

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video  
5 information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, comprising:

input means for entering a request for information identifying the client to which the video information  
10 captured by said image sensing means is transferred; and

notification means responsive to the entered request for reporting the information identifying the client.

2. The server according to claim 1, wherein said image  
15 sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

3. The server according to claim 1, wherein the transfer service is performed for a plurality of clients.

- 20 4. The server according to claim 1, wherein control of the image sensing means includes optical control and orientation control.

5. The server according to claim 1, wherein said input means includes:

- 25 voice input means; and  
recognition means for recognition a voice input by

said voice input means.

6. The server according to claim 1, wherein the information reported by said notification means includes user names of connected clients.

5 7. The server according to claim 1 or 6, wherein said notification means reports by voice.

8. A method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service  
10 to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via the network, comprising:

an input step of entering, via prescribed input means, a request for information identifying the client  
15 to which the video information captured by the image sensing means is transferred; and

notification step responsive to the entered request of reporting, via prescribed notification means, the information identifying the client.

20 9. The method according to claim 8, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

10. A storage medium storing program code which, by being read in and executed by a computer, functions as a  
25 server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for

providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, comprising:

5           program code functioning as input means for inputting a request for information identifying the client to which the video information captured by said image sensing means is transferred; and

10           program code functioning as notification means responsive to the input request for reporting the information identifying the client.

11. The storage medium according to claim 10, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

15           12. A system comprising at least one client terminal connected to a network, and a server for making it possible for said client terminal to control image sensing means via the network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which  
20           has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, said server including:

          input means for entering a request for information identifying the client to which the video information captured by said image sensing means is transferred; and

25           notification means responsive to the entered request for reporting the information identifying the

client.

13. The system according to claim 12, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

- 5 14. A server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, comprising:

10 storage means for storing information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image sensing means;

- 15 input means for entering a request for status information regarding said image sensing means; and

- 20 notification means responsive to the entered request for extracting from said storage means, information relating to an object whose image is being sensed by said image sensing means, and reporting the extracted information.

15. The server according to claim 14, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

- 25 16. The server according to claim 14, wherein control of the image sensing means includes optical control and orientation control.

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17. The server according to claim 14, wherein said input means includes:

voice input means; and

5 recognition means for recognition a voice input by said voice input means.

18. The server according to claim 14, wherein said notification means reports by voice.

19. A method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, comprising:

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10 a storage step of storing, in a prescribed storage device, information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image sensing means;

15 an input step of entering, from prescribed input means, a request for status information regarding said image sensing means; and

20 a notification step responsive to the entered request of extracting, from said storage device, information relating to an object in a field of view in which image sensing is being performed by said image sensing means, and reporting the extracted information

25 via prescribed output means.

20. The method according to claim 19, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

21. A storage medium storing program code which, by  
5 being read in and executed by a computer, functions as a server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image  
10 sensing means, to the client via said network, comprising:

program code functioning as storage means for storing information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image  
15 sensing means;

program code functioning as input means for entering a request for status information regarding said image sensing means; and

program code functioning as notification means  
20 responsive to the entered request for extracting, from said storage means, information relating to an object in a field of view in which image sensing is being performed by said image sensing means, and reporting the extracted information.

25 22. The storage medium according to claim 21, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-

dimensional image sensing device.

23. A system comprising at least one client terminal connected to a network, and a server for making it possible for said client terminal to control image

5 sensing means via the network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, said server including:

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10 storage means for storing information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image sensing means;

input means for entering a request for status information regarding said image sensing means; and

15 notification means responsive to the entered request for extracting, from said storage means, information relating to an object in a field of view in which image sensing is being performed by said image sensing means, and reporting the extracted information.

24. The system according to claim 23, wherein said  
20 image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

25. A server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video  
25 information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network,

comprising:

storage means for storing information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image sensing means;

5 input means for entering a desired position in video being captured by said image sensing means; and

notification means for extracting, from said storage means, information relating to an object corresponding to the position entered by said input means, and reporting the extracted information.

26. The server according to claim 25, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

27. The server according to claim 25, wherein said  
15 input means enters coordinate data that has been designated by the client.

28. The server according to claim 25 or 27, wherein said notification means reports to the client.

29. A client connected to the server described in claim  
20 25, comprising:

display means for displaying video transferred from said server;

designation means for designating a desired position in the video displayed;

25 means for supplying the input means of said server with information representing the position designated by



said designation means; and

output means for receiving and outputting information reported to it by the notification means of said server.

- 5 30. A method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said
- 10 network, comprising:

a storage step of storing, in prescribed storage means, information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image sensing means;

- 15 an input step of entering a desired position in video being captured by said image sensing means; and

a notification step of extracting, from said storage means, information relating to an object corresponding to the position entered at said input

20 step, and reporting the extracted information via prescribed output means.

31. The method according to claim 30, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

- 25 32. A storage medium storing program code which, by being read in and executed by a computer, functions as a

server for making it possible for a remote client to control image sensing means via a network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, comprising:

program code functioning as storage means for storing information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image sensing means;

program code functioning as input means for entering a desired position in video being captured by said image sensing means; and

program code functioning as notification means for extracting, from said storage means, information relating to an object corresponding to the position entered by said input means, and reporting the extracted information.

33. The storage medium according to claim 32, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

34. A system comprising at least one client terminal connected to a network, and a server for making it possible for said client terminal to control image sensing means via the network and for providing a transfer service to transfer video information, which

has been captured by the image sensing means, to the client via said network, said server including:

storage means for storing information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling said image sensing means;

input means for entering a desired position in video being captured by said image sensing means; and

notification means for extracting, from said storage means, information relating to an object

corresponding to the position entered by said input means, and reporting the extracted information.

35. The system according to claim 34, wherein said image sensing means is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.